[5th December 1947

SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR :—" Are not the Government aware that the two monsoons are failing every alternate years?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir. We have taken that into account."

The Boiler Department.

* 171 *Q.*—SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) what is the revenue now available and the expenditure in the Boiler Department ;

(*b*) the increase in the past five years of boilers; and the expected income in registration of economisers and new boilers now contemplated;

(*c*) the number of Inspectors and the time spent by them outside headquarters every year ; and

(*d*) if there is increase in work, whether the Government have any proposal to increase the number of Inspectors ; if so, by how many?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The receipts and expenditure for the year 1946–47 were Rs. 77,364 and Rs. 71,549, respectively. (The expenditure excludes dearness and war allowances.)

" (*b*) The increase in the number of boilers during the past five years is 147. The expected income from the registration of economizers is Rs. 8,000 and that registration of new boilers is Rs. 10,200.

" (*c*) There were five Inspectors of Boilers during the three years, 1942–45 and six from 1945–46 onwards. The average number of days spent by the Inspectors outside headquarters during the five years from 1942–43 to 1946–47 was 212, 219, 232, 209 and 200 days respectively.

" (*d*) It is understood that the Chief Inspector of Boilers has submitted certain proposals to the Chief Engineer in this regard. They have not yet been received by the Government from the Chief Engineer."

Improvements to certain minor ports.

* 172 *Q.*—SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are proposals to improve the minor ports of Baruva, Bimlipatam and Calingapatam; and

(*b*) whether any estimates have been prepared and when the work will be taken up?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) There are no proposals to improve the Ports of Baruva and Bimlipatam. There is a proposal to cement concrete the beach road at Calingapatam at an estimated cost of Rs. 16,000